

Definitions:

◇ Environmental impact assessment

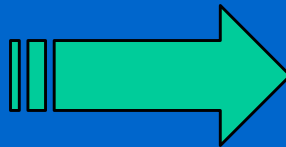
- ♦ a formal process for identifying the likely effects of particular activities or projects on the environment and on human health and welfare
- ♦ includes the development of mitigation and monitoring measures

The EIA process

Phase 1

Initial Inquiries

- Understanding the project
- Screening
- Preliminary assessment (if needed)
- Scoping (if needed)



Phase 2

Full EIA (if needed)

- Baseline study
- Selecting alternatives
- Identifying potential impacts
- Quantifying/predicting impacts
- Selecting mitigation options
- Implementing mitigation and monitoring plans

Phase 1: Initial inquiries

◆ Understanding the project:

- ♦ part 1. Understand *why* the project is being undertaken

why a road?



why a dam?



➔ Answering 'why?' helps frame alternatives

Phase 1: Initial inquiries

◆ Understanding the project

◆ List out:

- ➔ Goal/Purpose of Project (Consider Alternatives)
- ➔ Ancillary Activities (Quarries, Haul Roads, Transmission Lines)
- ➔ Inputs Needed (Raw Materials, Energy, Equipment)
- ➔ Operational Characteristics
- ➔ By-products and Waste Produced
- ➔ Financing Plan and Sequencing/Phasing of Activities



Phase 1: Initial inquiries

◈ Screening

- Based on the projects' *general characteristics*, what type of environmental review is required?

◈ Preliminary assessment:

- a rapid, streamlined EIA with simplified or more generic tools. (for example, the USAID IEE).

◈ Scoping

- establish the boundaries of a full EIA study

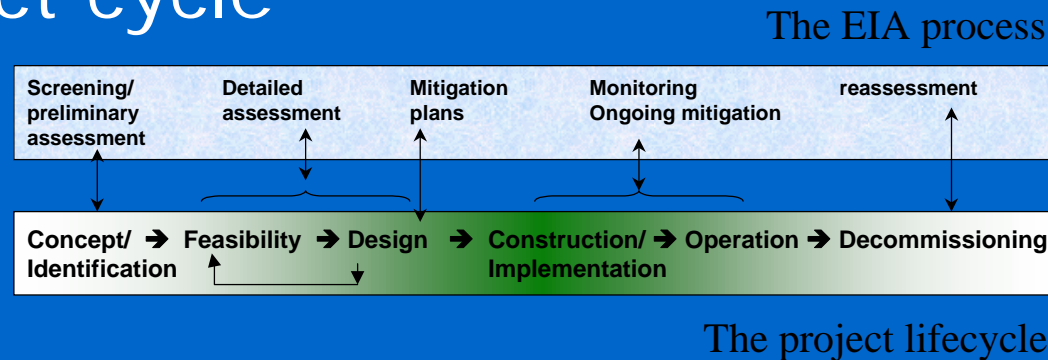
Phase 2: the full EIA

◆ Steps in a full EIA:

- ◆ Conduct a baseline study
- ◆ Consider a range of alternatives
- ◆ Identify and predict impacts
- ◆ Determine impact significance
- ◆ Compare and evaluate alternatives
- ◆ Consider options to mitigate or compensate for impacts
- ◆ Prepare mitigation and monitoring plans

When Should Environmental Impacts be Assessed?

- ◇ As early as possible, AND
- ◇ As a continuing process, linked to the project cycle



- ◇ *Note: It's rarely too late to consider environmental issues*